

IN THE CLAIMS

1.-13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) Process for metallizing an article comprising a first high temperature polymer material, including the following steps:

- a) cleaning and degreasing the article;
- b) activating by etching the article surface with a plasma gas;
- c) grafting the activated surface with metallic atoms;
- d) metallizing the grafted surface by immersing the article in a chemical metallizing bath at a temperature ranging from 50 to 70°C.

15. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 14, wherein the plasma gas is nitrogenous plasma gas.

16. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 15, wherein the plasma gas is chosen among N_2 , NH_3 or N_2+H_2 or a mixture thereof.

17. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 16, wherein the plasma gas further includes an inert gas.

18. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein the metallic atom is chosen among a metal of group VIII.

19. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 18, wherein the metallic atom is palladium.

20. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 19, wherein the step c) consists of immersing the plasma treated article in a metallization bath comprising palladium ions.

21. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 20, wherein the metallization bath is PdCl_2 or PdSO_4 bath.
22. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein prior to step d), the activated article is treated with a reducing chemical bath.
23. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 22, wherein the reducing chemical bath comprises hypophosphite, formaldehyde or hydrosulphite as reducing agent.
24. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 14, wherein the high temperature polymer material is chosen among semi-crystalline polymers or liquid crystal polymers or polybutylene terephthalate (PBT) or polyphenylene Sulphide (PPS) or syndiotactic polystyrene (SPS).
25. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 14, wherein prior to step a) or after step a) the first high temperature polymer material is partially moulded with a further polymer material to expose a portion of the first high temperature polymer material.
26. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 14, wherein after step b), the first high temperature polymer material is partially overmoulded with a further polymer material to expose a portion of the first high temperature polymer material.
27. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 25, wherein process parameters are chosen so as to only enable metallization of the exposed portion of the first high temperature polymer material.
28. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 26, wherein process parameters are chosen so as to only enable metallization of the exposed portion of the first high temperature polymer material.

29. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 27, wherein the process parameters are chosen among:

- number of activation cycles before grafting
- duration of metallizing step
- stirring rate of the metallization bath
- temperature of the metallization bath
- chemical composition of the metallization bath.

30. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 28, wherein the process parameters are chosen among:

- number of activation cycles before grafting
- duration of metallizing step
- stirring rate of the metallization bath
- temperature of the metallization bath
- chemical composition of the metallization bath.

31. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 14, wherein the chemical metallizing bath is a nickel or copper bath.

32. - 35. (Canceled)

36. (New) A metallized article including a semi-crystalline or liquid crystal plastic part coated with a metallic deposit.